



THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES
2010

Sea Link Energy Cable

Appendix A4 to the Natural England Deadline 4 Submission

Natural England's Additional Comments on the Suffolk Onshore Ecology

For:

The construction and operation of the Sea Link Energy Cable.

Planning Inspectorate Reference EN020026

10th February 2026

Appendix A4- Natural England's advice on documentation relating to Suffolk Onshore Ecology.

In formulating these comments, the following documents, submitted at Deadline 2, have been considered in relation to the impacts of the Sea Link Energy Cable on Suffolk's Onshore Ecology:

- [REP2-010] 6.6 (D) Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Tracked)

1. Summary

Natural England advises that the only comment at this stage is related to the timescale for maintenance of the acid grassland creation/enhancement area.

The updated HRA provided by the Applicant at Deadline 2 clarifies one of the issues raised within the Risk and Issue Log, Point 20. However, there are other issues within Point 20 that are not yet resolved.

2. Detailed Comments

Table 1: Natural England’s detailed comments on Suffolk Onshore

Document reviewed:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6.6 (D) Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Tracked) 			
NE Ref	Section	Key Concern and/or Update	Natural England’s Advice to Resolve Issue
1	Section 8.2.5	<p>Natural England note that the timescale for maintenance of the acid grassland creation/enhancement area has been updated from 30 years to 10 years.</p> <p>We welcome the clarification as it is now consistent with other application documents which state a 10-year maintenance timescale.</p>	<p>This clarifies one of the queries we raised within Point 20 of our Risks and Issues log, but please note that other queries within that point are still yet to be resolved.</p> <p>Please see our advice in Appendix A1 Submitted at Deadline 1, NE Ref 5 for further information.</p>